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SWALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for

1956



Ans.



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# SWALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman - Capt. J. E. PRENTIS

<u>Parish</u>										<u>Councillor</u>	
Badlesmere and Leaveland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Morgan-Kirby, D.W.	o
Bapchild	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Baker, A.L.	ox
Bobbing and Iwade	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Craddock, J.W.	ox
Borden	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Bishop, Mrs K.	o
Boughton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Rook, H.	x
Bredgar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Southern, J.D.	
Buckland, Norton & Stone	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Burbridge, E.J.	o
Doddington	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Elvy, F.	ox
Dunkirk	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Bailey, J.C.	x
Eastling	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Meeson, A.J.	
Faversham Without, Goodnestone & Graveney	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Vinson, E.	
Halstow, Lower	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Cotton, A.C.	ox
Hartlip	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Illingworth, W.G.	
Hernhill	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Foreman, S.E.	
Kingsdown, Milsted & Rodmersham	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	White, W.H.	o
Luddenham	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Stevens, S.	
Lynsted	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Waters, F.H.	ox
Newington	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Harlow, E.D.	x
Newnham	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Prentis, J.E.	ox
Oare	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Harrison, F.E.	
Ospringe	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Fisher, G.F.	
Selling	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Gaskain, E.W.	x
Sheldwich	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Milgate, E.T.	
Stalisfield	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Lintott, P.	
Teynham	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Moor, D.J.	x
Throwley	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Hodges, C.R.	
Tonge	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Gascoyne, G.A.C.	
Tunstall	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Bensted, F.H.	
Upchurch	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Bishop, C.C.	o

o Members of the Health Committee

x Members of the Housing Committee

Clerk of the Council - BRYAN TASSELL, Esq.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

J. T. MURPHY, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

---

Chief Public Health Inspector

MR. R. K. DUNNING,

---

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

MR. R. A. O. BAMPTON, (from 1/11/56)

---

District Public Health Inspector

MR. C. G. A. RUDD,

---

Clerical Staff

Miss R. A. PARKER,

---

Rodent Operator

MR. C. RICHARDS,



SWALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,  
Whitehall,  
48/50, Bell Road,  
Sittingbourne,  
Kent.

July, 1957.

The Chairman and Members of the  
Swale Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs Bishop and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Rural District for 1956.

The birth rate of 14.7 per 1,000 of the population was slightly higher than the previous year, while the corrected birth rate of 15.3 is compared with the rate of 15.7 for England and Wales.

There were 25 more deaths than last year, however the corrected death rate of 9.9 compares favourably with 11.7 for the whole country.

The infantile mortality rate of 30.2 per 1,000 related live births is for the first time in nine years above the National figure of 23.8 which is a new low record.

The incidence of infectious disease at 98 notifications was much reduced from the previous year, mainly due to 15 cases of measles compared with 248 in 1955. Only one case of Poliomyelitis occurring in mid-winter was notified.

Slum Clearance has progressed steadily and altogether 35 houses were represented during the year and this must be considered as satisfactory.

It is always difficult in scattered rural communities to provide housing accommodation, because the people are naturally anxious to remain in or near their own villages. Accordingly it is pleasing to record that the number of applications for improvement grants during the year was in respect of 32 houses, 29 being tenanted houses.

I must record my thanks to the Members of the Public Health Department for carrying out their duties so ably during the year, especially to Mr. Dunning, your Chief Public Health Inspector for his assistance and co-operation.

I would also thank the Members of the Council for their help and consideration.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

J. T. MURPHY.

## SECTION I

### SOCIAL CONDITIONS

#### 1. CLIMATOLOGY

The total rainfall for the year was slightly lower than in the previous year, that recorded at the Faversham Sewage Works being 25.48 inches as compared with 26.61 in 1955, and that at Highsted Water Works, Sittingbourne, 24.28 inches in 1956 as compared with 29.40 in 1955.

#### 2. AREA

No change from 1955 - 62,015 acres (approximately 97 square miles).

#### 3. POPULATION

The estimated mid-year population for the District as given by the Registrar-General was 20,290 showing an increase of 70 over last year's estimate, and an increase of 576 over the 1951 Census figure. The natural increase of the population i.e., the excess of births over deaths during 1956 was 95.

#### 4. NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES

The estimated number of inhabited houses at the end of 1956 was 6,635 as compared with 6,523 at the end of 1955 - an increase of 112. This increase was due to 54 houses built by the Council and 58 constructed privately (total 112), but during the year other houses ceased to be used as living accommodation either by reason of demolition or conversion to other purposes.

#### 5. RATEABLE VALUE

£163,709 as compared with £80,872 in the previous year.

#### 6. SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE

£645 an increase of £319 8s. 11d over the figure for 1955.



## SECTION II

### VITAL STATISTICS

#### 1. BIRTHS

1.	(i) Live Births		M	F	Total
	Legitimate ...	...	163(152)	117(120)	280(272)
	Illegitimate ...	...	9( 10)	9( 4)	18( 14)
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
			172(162)	126(124)	298(286)
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	(ii) Still Births				
	Legitimate ...	...	3( 1)	2( 4)	5( 5)
	Illegitimate ...	...	-(-)	1(-)	1(-)
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
			3( 1)	3( 4)	6( 5)
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

(iii) Birth Rate - The crude birth rate for the year at 14.7 per 1,000 of the estimated population shows a slight increase as compared with 14.1 per 1,000 in 1955. The corrected birth rate for the area is 15.3, the rate for England and Wales being 15.7.

(iv) Percentage of Still Births and Illegitimate Rate - The percentage of still births to total births has risen slightly from 1.7% in 1955 to 2.01% in 1956, and the illegitimate rate shows an increase from 5.1% in 1955 to 6.4% in 1956.

(v) Excess of Births over Deaths - This amounted to 95 for the year 1956 and shows a decrease as compared with the corresponding figure for the year 1955 which was 108 and is slightly less than 123 which was the figure for 1954.

(vi) Table 1 shows the number of births and birth rates since 1946.

#### 2. DEATHS

(a) The number of deaths occurring in or assigned to the area during 1956 was 203, of which 107 were males and 96 females. This is an increase on the number (178) which occurred in the previous year and as will be seen from Table I the number of deaths occurring in 1956 is below the average for the past eleven years.

The following statement shows the age and sex distribution of the deaths that occurred in 1955.

+ Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.

	Und 1	1-5	-15	-25	-35	-45	-55	-65	-75	-85	Over 85	Total
Male .....	7	1	-	-	3	3	4	17	31	26	15	107
Female .....	2	1	-	2	1	1	9	9	23	33	15	96
Total	9	2	-	2	4	4	13	26	54	59	30	203

(b) The crude death rate at 10.0 per 1,000 of the population shows a slight increase over that of the previous year (8.8 per 1,000). The corrected death rate for the area is 9.9 which compares favourably with the death rate of England and Wales which is 11.7.

(c) Table I shows the number of deaths and death rates since 1946 and Table 2 shows the causes of death during 1956 classified by the Registrar-General under 36 headings based on the Abbreviated List of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death.

TABLE I  
Births and Deaths 1946 - 1956

Year	No. of Births	No. of Deaths	Excess of Births over Deaths	Crude Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate
1946	336	219	117	21.9	12.4
1947	439	228	211	24.4	12.7
1948	391	219	172	20.3	11.4
1949	367	227	140	19.3	11.9
1950	359	241	118	18.8	12.6
1951	320	211	109	16.3	10.8
1952	325	193	132	16.3	9.8
1953	291	211	80	14.5	10.5
1954	331	208	123	16.4	10.3
1955	286	178	108	14.1	8.8
1956	298	203	95	14.7	10.0



TABLE 2

Causes of Death

Causes	Males	Females	Total
1. Tuberculosis Respiratory ... ..	1( 3)	-( -)	1( 3)
2. Tuberculosis, Other ... ..	-( -)	-( -)	-( -)
3. Syphilitic disease ... ..	-( -)	-( 1)	-( 1)
4. Diphtheria ... ..	-( -)	-( -)	-( -)
5. Whooping Cough ... ..	-( -)	-( -)	-( -)
6. Meningococcal infections ... ..	-( -)	-( -)	-( -)
7. Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	-( -)	-( -)	-( -)
8. Measles ... ..	-( -)	-( -)	-( -)
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-( -)	1( -)	1( -)
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	3( 2)	2( -)	5( 2)
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	10( 8)	1( -)	11( 8)
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	-( -)	3( 5)	3( 5)
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	-( -)	2( 4)	2( 4)
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	8(10)	11( 9)	19(19)
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	-( 1)	-( 1)	-( 2)
16. Diabetes ... ..	-( -)	-( -)	-( -)
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	12(14)	12( 9)	24(23)
18. Coronary disease, angina ... ..	18(16)	5(13)	23(29)
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	2( -)	2( 2)	4( 2)
20. Other heart diseases ... ..	11(19)	22(20)	33(39)
21. Other circulatory disease ... ..	2( 3)	6( 2)	8( 5)
22. Influenza ... ..	2( -)	3( 1)	5( 1)
23. Pneumonia ... ..	4( -)	8( -)	12( -)
24. Bronchitis ... ..	7( 5)	2( -)	9( 5)
25. Other diseases of Respiratory system .	2( 2)	1( 1)	3( 3)
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	-( -)	-( -)	-( -)
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	-( -)	2( -)	2( -)
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	1( 1)	-( 3)	1( 4)
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	2( 2)	-( -)	2( 2)
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	-( -)	-( 1)	-( 1)
31. Congenital malformations ... ..	1( 1)	1( 1)	2( 2)
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	11( 6)	10( 4)	21(10)
33. Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	4( -)	-( -)	4( -)
34. All other accidents ... ..	5( 3)	1( 2)	6( 5)
35. Suicide ... ..	1( 2)	1( -)	2( 2)
36. Homicide and operations of war ...	-( -)	-( 1)	-( 1)
	107(98)	96(80)	203(178)

+ Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.

### 3. INFANT MORTALITY

There were 9 deaths of infants under 1 year of age during 1956. An increase of 4 over that of the previous year which gives an Infant Mortality Rate for the year of 30.2 per 1,000 live births. The Infantile Mortality Rate for the country as a whole is 23.8 establishing a new low record.

The number of infant deaths and the rate per 1,000 births for the past eleven years in the district are given in Table 4. Infantile Mortality is an indication of standard of living, environmental conditions and medical care. Seven of the deaths occurred during the neonatal period with six of them occurring within the first week of birth. These early deaths provide the most difficult problem to preventive measures.

The causes of Infant Deaths that occurred are given in Table 3.

TABLE 3  
INFANT DEATHS

Cause	Place of Death	Male	Female
1. Broncho Pneumonia ... ..	Home	-	3 months
2. Prematurity ... ..	Hospital	1 hour	-
3. Atelectasis Immaturity ... ..	Hospital	3 days	-
4. Cerebral Thrombosis ...	Hospital	7 hours	-
5. Cerebral Haemorrhage ...	Hospital	5 days	-
6. Broncho Pneumonia ... ..	Hospital	3 weeks	-
7. Prematurity ... ..	Home	30 mins.	-
8. Broncho Pneumonia Hydrocephalus Spina Bifida ... ..	Hospital	-	2 months
9. Cerebral Haemorrhage Prematurity ... ..	Home	4 days	-



TABLE 4

Year	No. of Deaths	Rates
1946	18	46.4
1947	21	47.8
1948	9	23.0
1949	8	21.8
1950	6	16.7
1951	5	15.6
1952	6	18.5
1953	4	13.7
1954	6	18.1
1955	5	17.5
1956	9	30.2

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

1. Total number of the various Infectious Diseases notified during the year, the number of cases admitted to Hospital or Sanatorium and the number of deaths attributed to each disease in the Registrar-General's classification of the deaths is given in Table 5.

TABLE 5

Disease	Cases Notified	Removed to Hospital or Sanatorium	Deaths
Scarlet Fever ... ..	19( 41)	9	-
Whooping Cough ... ..	29( 44)	-	-
Measles ... ..	15(248)	-	-
Pneumonia ... ..	23( 14)	4	12
Tuberculosis Pulmonary ... ..	10( 12)	2	1
Tuberculosis Non-Pulmonary ... ..	1( 1)	1	-
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic) ... ..	1( 4)	1	-
	98(364)	17	13

+ Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.

2. Table 6 shows the age groups affected by the diseases notified.

TABLE 6

Age Group Distribution - Infectious Disease

Disease	Un 1	-5	-10	-15	-20	-25	-30	-35	-40	-45	-50	-55	0v 55	Un- known	Total
Scarlet Fever..	-	4	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
Whooping Cough.	2	12	13	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	29
Measles.....	-	3	2	5	2	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	15
Pneumonia.....	2	4	2	-	-	1	2	-	1	1	2	-	8	-	23
T.B. Pulmonary.	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	2	1	2	2	-	10
T.B. Non-Pul:..	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Poliomyelitis..	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	4	24	32	7	3	3	3	-	2	4	3	2	10	1	98

There were 98 notifications received during the year as compared with 357 during 1955. Whooping Cough accounted for 29 notifications as compared with 44 in the previous year. Measles dropped considerably during 1956 to 15 as compared with 248 in 1955. There was a slight increase in the number of cases of Pneumonia notified 23 in 1956 and 14 in 1955 - 13 of these cases were notified during the first three months of the year, this was undoubtedly due to the very cold winter.

Only one case of Acute Poliomyelitis was notified and this case was of the Paralytic type - being a 4 years old boy from Tonge who was admitted to Keycol Hill Hospital on the 22nd December, 1956. The boy made a complete recovery.

In Appendix A is shown the distribution in the various parishes of cases of Infectious Disease notified during 1956.



TUBERCULOSISTABLE 7

Number of cases of Tuberculosis notified and number of deaths and the death rates each year from 1945 - 1956.

Year	Number of Primary Notifications Received		Deaths		Death rate per 10,000 of Population	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1945	14	3	10	2	6.03	1.2
1946	12	6	8	1	4.5	0.5
1947	10	3	9	-	5.01	0.0
1948	16	3	4	3	2.08	1.5
1949	11	5	5	3	2.6	1.5
1950	7	1	3	-	1.5	0.0
1951	12	4	4	-	2.04	0.0
1952	12	1	5	-	2.5	0.0
1953	12	3	3	-	1.5	0.0
1954	7	5	3	-	1.5	0.0
1955	12	1	3	-	1.5	0.0
1956	13	2	1	-	0.5	0.0

A summary of the cases remaining on the Tuberculosis Register for the area at the end of 1956 is shown in Table 8. Though there has been over a period of years a gradual increase in the numbers on the Register (88 at the end of 1947, 163 at the end of 1956) this is neither unexpected nor alarming, but it is due to the fact that the patients are on the Register for longer periods than previously.

TABLE 8

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M	F	M	F	
No. of cases on Register at 1st January, 1956 ...	65(59)	57(54)	18(18)	16(18)	156(149)
New Cases ... ..	6( 8)	4( 4)	-(-)	1( 1)	11( 13)
Restored to Register ...	-(-)	-(-)	-(-)	-(-)	-(-)
Transferred to Swale ...	4( 1)	1( 3)	-(-)	-(-)	5( 4)
	75(68)	62(61)	18(18)	17(19)	172(166)
Died ... ..	1( 3)	-(-)	-(-)	-(-)	1( 3)
Left Swale ... ..	3(-)	1( 2)	-(-)	-(-)	4( 3)
Recovered ... ..	3(-)	-(-)	-(-)	-(-)	3( 4)
Cancelled Non-Tuberculosis	-(-)	-(-)	-(-)	1(-)	1(-)
	68(65)	61(57)	18(18)	16(16)	163(156)

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

(i) Diphtheria Immunisation - From figures supplied by courtesy of the County Medical Officer it appears that 210 children under 5 years of age and 21 children 5-15 years were immunised during 1956. It would also appear that of all children in the area under the age of 15 years on the 31st December, 1956, 3,909 had completed a course of immunisation before that date. The number of re-inforcing inoculations carried out (mainly children commencing school life) was 351 as compared with 332 in the previous year.

(ii) Vaccination - Also by courtesy of the County Medical Officer it is reported that 178 primary vaccinations and 4 re-vaccinations were carried out, as compared with last year's figures which were 169 and 10 respectively. Of the 178 primary vaccinations 103 were of children under 1 year of age and 64 of children aged 1-5 years.

+ Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.



## SECTION IV

### GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

Local Authority Health Services under the National Health Service Act are administered by the Kent County Council as the Local Health Authority. Those services include the care of Mothers and Young Children; the provisions of Midwives; Home visiting and Home Nursing; Vaccination and Immunisation; Prevention of Illness; Care and After-Care and the Domestic Help Services. Mental Welfare and the treatment and care of Tuberculosis patients is provided by the Regional Hospital Board.

#### SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

Through the courtesy of the County Medical Officer, the following extracts from the Annual Report on the School Health Services in the Area are given.

(a) Medical Inspections:-

(i)	Number of children inspected (periodic)	...	...	...	267
(ii)	Number of special inspections	...	...	...	16
(iii)	Number of re-inspections	...	...	...	109
(iv)	Number of children found at periodic inspections to require treatment	...	...	...	47
(v)	Percentage requiring treatment	...	...	...	1.7%

The defects found during these inspections are given in the following table from which it will be seen that eye defects, defects of the ear, nose and throat and orthopaedic are still the principle reason for pupils requiring treatment.

Defects	Number
Eyes ... ..	21
Ears, nose and throat ... ..	11
Orthopaedic ... ..	13
Lungs ... ..	2
Heart and Circulation ... ..	-
Development ... ..	-
Psychological ... ..	6

(b) General Condition.

The classification of the general condition of children inspected was as follows:-

Groups	Number of Pupils Inspected	Percentages	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Entrants . . . . .	243	100.0	-
Second Age Group . . . . .	129	100.0	-
Third Age Group . . . . .	20	100.0	-
Other periodic inspections . . . . .	267	99.3	0.7
TOTAL	659	99.7	0.3

From these figures it would appear that generally speaking the health of the school children in the area remains good. There has been a considerable increase in those classified as satisfactory 99.7% and only 0.3% classified as unsatisfactory as compared with 1955 figures of 38.7% Good, 57.1 Fair and 4.2 Poor.

(c) Dental Inspection.

As no dental surgeon is at present available to work on Mobile Unit No. 1, children now receive emergency treatment by Mr. P. D. Gausden at Faversham and Sheerness Clinics.

(d) Infestation with vermin.

- (i) Total number of examinations in the school by the school nurse or other authorised persons . . . . . 3,948(6,147)
- (ii) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested . . . . . 6 (15)
- (iii) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2) Education Act, 1944) . . . . . - ( 2)

+ Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.



## SECTION V

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

#### 1. Water Supplies

The provisions of the Kent Water Act, 1955 have caused a redistribution of the responsibility for main supplies in the area. The parishes of Hartlip and Upchurch are supplied by the Medway Water Board, Bobbing, Iwade, Newington and Lower Halstow by the Sittingbourne and Milton Urban District Council, Oare by the Faversham Water Company and the remaining parishes by the Mid Kent Water Company.

There were 9 houses connected to the main supply and this now brings the percentage of houses with internal water supply to 95.3, those with standpipes 3.1% and the remaining 1.6% relying on wells or carted supplies.

#### 2. Drainage and Sewerage

The parishes of Boughton, Oare, Teynham, Lynsted, Iwade, Newington and parts of the parishes of Borden and Rodmersham have sewerage facilities.

In October after a great deal of frustration, work was started on the Newington Lower Halstow Sewerage Scheme. This has been awaited for a number of years and it is gratifying to note the satisfactory progress that is being made. Now that this scheme is in hand it is hoped that the system may be extended to serve other areas, particularly the parish of Upchurch.

Improvements were carried out to the Sedimentation Tank at Teynham Sewage Works and larger ejectors and compressor were fitted to the Iwade Pumping Station.

#### 3. Public Cleansing

The collection of house refuse and the emptying of cesspools is under the jurisdiction of the Engineer and Surveyor.

The majority of the district has a weekly or fortnightly collection of refuse, but in some of the outlying parts the collection is only once a month. This is not adequate and encourages irresponsible dumping in any convenient wood or pit with consequent nuisance from smells, flies and rats.

It is pleasing to note that the refuse is now being disposed of by proper controlled tipping in the chalk pit Cryalls Lane.

The collection of waste paper is again slightly higher in bulk and continues to be satisfactory from the collection and sale aspects.

Very great difficulty is experienced particularly in the eastern parishes, in obtaining sufficient suitable sites for the disposal of cesspool contents. This means the cost of the service is higher than it would be if convenient sites were available. When the Boughton sewerage



scheme is carried out facilities will be available at the works and this will improve the service considerably.

#### 4. Rodent Control

The operator employed by the Council continues in the good work he is doing in rodent control. This year a little more emphasis has been laid on the survey of agricultural properties, but results were satisfactory in that only a very small percentage of infestation was found. Warfarin continues to be used by the property owners themselves with very good results. The total number of treatments shows an increase over last year but I understand that this has been fairly general over the region.

The following table summarises the work done during the year.

	Type of Property				Agricul- tural
	Non-Agricultural			Total of Cols (1) (2) & (3)	
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses (inc. Council	All other (inc. Business Premises		
1. Number of properties in Local Authority ...	5	6635	334	6974	723
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification ...	-	17	4	21	4
(b) Survey under the Act	5	1960	97	2062	248
3. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections ...	39	2076	109	2224	261
4. Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by:-					
(a) Rats (Major ...	3	189	2	194	12
(Minor ...	2	143	5	150	-
(b) Mice (Major ...	-	41	2	43	-
(Minor ...	-	-	-	-	-
5. Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority .	5	373	9	387	10
6. Total treatments carried out including re-treatments	32	388	11	431	10
7. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out ...	45				



## 5. Disinfection and Disinfestation

(i) There was a great reduction in the visits which were necessary for investigation of cases of infectious disease only 32 compared with 69 last year and a similar reduction in the disinfection required 17 rooms compared with 66 in 1955.

(ii) Likewise the number of visits in connection with vermin fell from 22 in 1955 to 9 this year.

## 6. Inspection of the District

A summary of visits made during the year is given in Appendix B.

Food Supplies

With the coming into force of the Food Hygiene Regulations much more attention has been paid to food premises than in previous years, 529 visits in 1956 compared with 352 in 1955. Generally the requirements of these Regulations have been received favourably by the traders who have co-operated very well in putting them into force. Your District Inspectors did a good job in visiting all the food premises in the area, explaining all the requirements and advising on the easiest and most satisfactory method of carrying them out. I attributed a good deal of the success which has been obtained to this method of working.

Unsound Food

Diseased or unsound meat or similar food is stained green and disposed of by recognised firms manufacturing fertilisers and glue etc. Tin food-stuff which has been found to be unfit for human consumption is dealt with by destruction of the tin and burial.

A list of foodstuff unfit for human consumption is given in Appendix C.

(i) Food Premises in the Area

The following table sets out the number and type of food premises in the area:-

Grocery and General	59
Inns etc.,	59
Restaurants	12
Butchers	13
Fishmongers	3
Confectioners & Miscellaneous	58
Bakehouses	4
Dairies	4

Of these premises 73 are registered for the sale of ice cream and 16 for the preparation or manufacture of sausages etc.

(ii) Milk

There has been a slight increase in the number of people registered as "distributors" of milk.

Registered Distributors of Milk ... ..	33(27)
Registered Dairies (other than Farms) ... ..	4( 3)

All milk is sold under one or other of the Special Designations and the following licences have been issued by the Council.

(a) Dealers (Business in Swale)

Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5( 6)
Sterilized	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14(13)
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4( 4)

(b) Supplementary (Business not in Swale but selling milk in the rural district).

Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10( 5)
Sterilized	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6( 1)
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10( 7)

Samples. Five samples were taken during the year and all satisfied the prescribed tests.

(iii) Ice Cream

No ice cream is manufactured in the area but 73 premises are registered for the sale of ice cream. There were 14 samples of ice cream submitted for examination during the year and of these 11 were in Grade I, and 3 in Grade II.

(iv) Meat

The number of slaughterhouses now in operation is 3 and these are in regular use each week. Once again 100% inspection of all animals killed has been maintained.

The following table summarises the types of animals killed and the findings on inspection. The details of the meat found to be unfit for human consumption is included in Appendix C.

+ Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.



	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed ... ..	438	6	48	366	980	-
Number inspected ... ..	438	6	48	366	980	-
<u>All disease except Tuberculosis &amp; Cysticerci.</u> Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	2	1	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	75	1	-	5	16	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci .	17.1%	16.6%	-	1.9%	1.7%	-
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u> Whole carcase condemned ...	1	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	26	4	-	-	9	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ... ..	6.2%	66.6%	-	-	.9%	-
<u>Cysticercosis.</u> Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-

(v) Food and Drugs

The administration of the part of the Act concerning the quality and nature of articles for sale is administered by the County Council Weights and Measures Department, County Hall, Maidstone, and I am indebted to Mr. S. Strugnell the Chief Inspector for the following summary of work carried out in this area.



FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

# Article

No.

# Article

No.

## Summary

All the above samples were returned as genuine.

19th June, 1957.

## SECTION VI

### HOUSING

To enable as early a start as possible on the "Slum Clearance" problem the Council decided to allocate half the houses already being built at Iwade for this need. Unfortunately it was not possible to make full use of this allocation, partly on account of the time factor and also on account of the houses not being suitable for the displaced persons. However in the year 19 houses were represented as being unfit for human habitation and 16 represented in a Clearance Area. It has been necessary to link the demolition programme with the building programme to minimise the waiting period between eviction and re-housing and this has meant that a greater proportion of the programme has been carried out in the eastern parishes. However with decisions on Clearance Areas in Teynham this tendency can be partly overcome, although not completely so until the Sewerage of Boughton has been completed and new houses can be built in that parish. Quite a number of houses have been improved and repaired, and in all probability the problem will not be so serious as at first anticipated.

Grants under Housing Act, 1949 continue to be of great assistance in improving the standard of old houses. During the year applications were received in respect of 32 houses, 29 tenanted and 3 owner occupied. The total cost of the work was £15,654 and the amount of grant £7,827. The main items included in this work is the provision of bathrooms and hot water supplies, w.c's and drainage.

Details of work done on Housing are as follows:-

Number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health and Housing Acts	...	...	427
Number of houses found to be in any respect unfit for human habitation	...	...	197
Number of houses found to be unfit for human habitation and incapable of repair at reasonable expense	...	...	19
Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied by informal action	...	...	112
Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of informal notices	...	...	4
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	...	...	13
Number of houses demolished	...	...	15
Number of houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given under Section II of the Housing Act, 1936	...	...	6



Number of dwelling houses reconditioned and  
undertakings cancelled ... .. NIL

### New Houses

A total of 112 new houses were built during the year 58 by private enterprise and 54 by the Council.

### Hop Pickers' Camps

Only 33 of the 37 camps in the area were in use during the year owing to the damage to the crop by a violent storm. Good pickers are becoming increasingly difficult to obtain, which with the improvement in design of machines makes one wonder how many more years the old established custom will continue.

## SECTION VIII

### SHOPS AND FACTORIES

#### 1. Shops Act

There are 204 shops on the Council's register and during the year 618 visits were made to them. The increased number of visits was mainly due to the Food Hygiene Regulations coming into operation, but the opportunity was taken of checking the requirements of The Shops Act at the same time. Two minor infringements were noted and rectified as soon as the owner's attention was drawn to them.

#### 2. Factories

Two cases of defective sanitary accommodation were noted during the year and were remedied on notification to the firms concerned.

	Factories	Inspections
With Power ... ..	53	40
Without Power ... ..	14	3
Workplaces ... ..	15	5
	<u>82</u>	<u>48</u>



# APPENDIX "A"

## Distribution of cases of Infectious Disease by Parishes

	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Pneumonia	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Non-Pulmonary	Poliomyelitis	Total
Badlesmere.....	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Bapchild.....	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
Bobbing.....	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
Borden.....	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	5
Boughton.....	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	3
Bredgar.....	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	3
Buckland.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Doddington.....	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	3
Dunkirk.....	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Eastling.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Faversham Without.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Goodnestone.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Graveney.....	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	3
Halstow, Lower.....	3	1	-	2	-	-	-	6
Hartlip.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hernhill.....	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Iwade.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kingsdown.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leaveland.....	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
Luddenham.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lynsted.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Milsted.....	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	5
Newington.....	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	4
Newnham.....	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Norton.....	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Oare.....	1	4	-	2	-	-	-	7
Ospringe.....	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	4
Rodmersham.....	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Selling.....	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Sheldwich.....	-	7	-	2	-	-	-	9
Stalisfield.....	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Stone.....	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Teynham.....	3	4	1	5	1	1	-	15
Throwley.....	1	4	1	-	-	-	-	6
Tonge.....	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2
Tunstall.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Upchurch.....	1	1	-	5	-	-	-	7
	19	29	15	23	10	1	1	98

APPENDIX "B"

RECORD OF INSPECTIONS BY THE PUBLIC

HEALTH INSPECTORS

HOUSING

Housing Act, 1949	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	181
Visits under Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	198
Re-visits under Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	124
Council House Applications	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	139
Council House Tenancies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35

PUBLIC HEALTH

Complaints re Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	229
Other Complaints	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	85
Re-visits (Houses)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	863
Other Re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	91
Miscellaneous Visits under P.H.A.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	134
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	71
Hop-pickers' Camps	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	165
Fruit Pickers' Camps	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Visits re Vermin	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT AND SHOPS

Food Premises:

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Grocery and General	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	227
Restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	106
Inns	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
Fried & Wet Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Ice-Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Shops (Non-food)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	402

FACTORIES

With Power	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Non-Power	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Workplaces	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5



## GENERAL

Interviews	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	345
Rat Destruction	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Visits with M.O.H.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Visits with D.S.I.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Re Alterations and Extensions				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Civil Defence	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20

## WORK DONE BY INSPECTOR

### Samples for Examination:

Ice-Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

### General:

Rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
-------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

APPENDIX "C"

Unsound Food

Home Killed Meat

BEEF

			Weight (lbs)
Carcases	1	Tuberculosis	592
Heads and Tongues	13	Tuberculosis	438
Lungs	16	Tuberculosis	207
Livers	5	Tuberculosis	80 $\frac{1}{2}$
Miscellaneous	4	Tuberculosis	31
Livers	62	Fasciolasis, Abscess, Telangiectasis	1,049
Miscellaneous		Bruising, Abscess	140 $\frac{1}{2}$
			<hr/>
			2,538
			<hr/>

PORK

Carcases		Tuberculosis	
Heads and Tongues	6	Tuberculosis	96 $\frac{1}{2}$
Lungs	5	Tuberculosis	13
Livers	3	Tuberculosis	11
Miscellaneous		Tuberculosis	13
Carcases	1	Emaciation	32
Lungs	3	Pleurisy	10
Livers	5	Cirrhosis	29
Miscellaneous		Erysipelas, Bruising	240
			<hr/>
			444 $\frac{1}{2}$
			<hr/>

MUTTON

Carcases	2	Emaciation and Septicaemia	121
Lungs	3	Strongylus Rufescens	13
Livers	1	Fasciolasis	2
Loin		Bruising	18
			<hr/>
			154
			<hr/>

OTHER FOOD STUFF

Fish		Decomposition	89
5 Tins Ham			54
40 Sausage Rolls		Mould	
36 Pork Pies		Mould	
Top piece and rump (imported)		Heated	99
1 Bovine Liver (part)		Freezing burn	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
			<hr/>
			247 $\frac{1}{2}$
			<hr/>



APPENDIX "D"

	Public Health Act, 1936	Housing Act, 1936	Food & Drugs Act, 1936	Shops Act, 1950	Factories Act, 1937	Milk & Dairies Regs. 1949
Preliminary Notices served ... ..	162	-	11	2	2	-
Preliminary Notices complied with ...	126	-	11	2	2	-
Statutory Notices served ... ..	3	-	-	-	-	-
Statutory Notices complied with ...	2	-	-	-	-	-

2. WORK COMPLETED AS A RESULT OF ACTION TAKEN

(a) HOUSING DEFECTS REMEDIED

External:-

Roofs and flashing ... ..	49
Chimneys and flues ... ..	9
Eaves Gutters ... ..	37
R. W. Downpipes ... ..	13
Walls (brickwork, pointing etc.) ... ..	25
Pavings, steps etc. ... ..	3
Drainage systems provided ... ..	4
Drainage repaired/cleansed ... ..	12

Internal:-

Walls ... ..	40
Ceilings ... ..	22
Floors ... ..	21
Windows ... ..	33
Doors ... ..	19
Ranges etc. repaired/renewed ... ..	8
Sinks provided/renewed ... ..	6
Sink wastes renewed ... ..	4
Stairs repaired/improved ... ..	3
Foodstores ventilated/provided ... ..	1
Dampness otherwise abated ... ..	7
Water Supply provided ... ..	9
W.C's repaired ... ..	13
Privies repaired/cleansed ... ..	17
Other repairs to houses ... ..	4

(b) PUBLIC HEALTH

Offensive Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
---------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(c) FOOD PREMISES AND SHOPS

Walls, ceilings, floors, windows, doors repaired	...	...	...						6
Walls, ceilings, floors, windows, doors cleansed	...	...	...						5
Ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cleanliness improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Hot-water supplies provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Washing facilities provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
E.C.D. Notices exhibited	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1